



# HI-Q

## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

### LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske  
Ray Forslund  
Pat Doherty  
Dave Kimpton  
Bill Roberts

VE3JQ  
VE3EDZ  
VE3PD  
VE3AVS  
VE3ARN

### LARC EXECUTIVE 2004-2005

|                   |                          |                                  |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>President:</b> | <b>Bill Unger</b>        | <b>VE3XT</b><br><b>344-1848</b>  |
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| <b>Directors:</b> | <b>Terry Stewardson</b>  | <b>VA3LU</b><br><b>577-9439</b>  |
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|                   | <b>Brad Harris</b>       | <b>VE3MXJ</b><br><b>767-0628</b> |
|                   | <b>Leo Wehrstedt</b>     | <b>VE3ATC</b><br><b>939-1020</b> |
| <b>Editor:</b>    | <b>Glen Wallace</b>      | <b>VE3ICY</b><br><b>623-0135</b> |

### LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT MOUNT BALDY 147.060 (-600) FP  
VE3TBR ST. JOSEPH'S 146.820 (-600) FP  
442.075 (+5 MHz)  
VE3BGA HILLCREST H.S. 145.450 (-600)  
( IRLP NODE VA3LU 123.0 Hz)

### The Prez Sez.

It was an unfortunate month for a few members of the LARC. As you all know by now, Bill, VE3AJ became a silent key in September. We have a tribute to him in the following pages.

On behalf of the LARC, I would also like to extend our condolences to Rob, VE3FLB who lost his father in September as well

Hopefully we can carry on and enjoy the time we have to enjoy our hobby, and even more importantly our family and friends.

As I write this I am just starting to digest an enormous amount of turkey and ham and all the fixings, we should always be thankful for our blessings.

**This month the meeting will be on October 14 at the regular meeting room in the McIntyre Building at Confederation College. (Room 191 7:30 p.m)**

Just a quick word on an upcoming event to the south of us: The St Paul Hamfest will be on October 23. There will be a contingent of us from Thunder Bay heading down. We hope you can join us. Always lots of interesting things to see, some bargains to be had, and even a series of lectures that will entertain and inform you. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention a seminar on QRP.

Hope to see you at the meeting this Thursday.

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Bill  
VE3XT



Source: [Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, February, 1995, Hi-Q.](#)

Personality of the Month

[Bill Klemacki VE3AJ](#)

by Ian Mellis - VA3RIM

On August 27, 1994,. Bill Klemacki VE3AJ, at the age of 53 years was made a life Member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.

The years that Bill spent at Hillcrest High School in the mid to late 1950's were an. important time. An electrical course from Bill Astle VE3LMM was especially enjoyable when our Bill built a vacuum tube volt meter and later a transistorized. radio broadcast receiver but it was the physics class, taught by Bill Davis, that our Bill thought "that he was in Heaven." Another subject that he found enjoyable was music. Bill was in the school band where he played the clarinet, a most difficult instrument to master. Soon noon-hours were spent in Bill Astle's electrical shop with George Podnar VE3GP where they turned on the radio broadcast receiver, listened to Morse code and generally "listened to the world" but the real interest in radio had not yet developed. It was the music of the school band that was important to Bill.

After graduating from high school, Bill took the course, Electronic Engineering Technology by means of correspondence from the Radio College of Canada. During this time, he decided to learn Morse code. Bill did this by sending code to himself by using a telephone hang-up switch as a key which emitted a sound that was totally uncharacteristic of radio Morse code. Because of Bill's reputation as a "short-wave radio nut" as he called himself, people would give him old radios. When he got one with a BFO (Beat Frequency Oscillator) he was able to listen to Morse code by it's true sound! Bill eventually went on to copy code at 55 words per minute and send at 40 to 45 words per minute.

In 1961, Bill had a job of painting bridges for the summer and he also knew the radio that he wanted to buy. Once he had saved enough money he bought the Hallicrafter SX43 for \$140.00. It was also in 1961 that Bill began working for the Post Office, now Canada Post and for two years, he was an inside mail sorter.

The following year saw Bill writing the examination for his Amateur Radio licence. The examiner was Les Harris VE3AYZ and it cost Bill fifty cents. The examination was both written and oral and it took five hours to complete and if it was missed an applicant had to wait six months and then do it all over again. Bill passed but as he says, "It was one nerve shattering experience!" He was then issued the call-sign, VE3EEW (Electronic Engineering Wonder).

Bill has all his log books. His first radio contact was to Steve Bush VE3EBS, now VE3DP on 20 metres CW on September 10, 1962. His first out-of-town contact was to W1HNI on CW 20 metres to Boston, Massachusetts on September 11, 1962. Bill went on to build his first transmitter which was 150 watts using a Geloso VFO as the frequency control. The VFO was a fully self-contained transmitter and the rest of the transmitter was a pair of 807's, plate modulated with a pair of 807's.

It was in 1962 that Ken McDonald VE3ECK took Bill to his first Field Day at Frank Start's place in McIntyre Township. Someone knew of Bill's CW expertise and asked him to give it a try. Bill did so and in 1963, he joined the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club. It was also in this same year that Bill changed jobs at the Post Office by becoming an outside letter carrier.

In 1964, Bill earned his Advanced Radio licence after writing a three and a half hour examination. His radio interests continued and he purchased a new Heathkit HX-10 "Marauder" transmitter for single side-band. Later he got a new Drake 2B receiver and then sold it, but because it was so nice he wants it back but it's owner does not want to part with it. In 1967, Bill bought a KW2000A transceiver from England and learned a great deal while modifying it.

Over the years since Bill joined the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club in 1963, he has held the positions of Vice-President, President, Director, Editor of Hi-Q, Emergency Co-ordinator and now a Senator of the club. While being an active member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Bill joined the Lakehead Search and Rescue Unit in 1966 and has been also on the Executive of that organization for twenty-three years. He was a President for three years. Bill mentioned that once while with the Search and Rescue Unit, they were flying in a plane doing a search when the pilot made a steep bank sideways. Bill was looking straight down at the ground through the window and his attention momentarily shifted to his foot. It was resting on the door handle...!

Luckily for us, Bill made it back safely because he became a prime mover in building the LARC radio repeater station on the CKPR tower on top of Mount Baldy. Bill says that he has climbed 450 feet up that tower. Once he was up at the 250 foot level with Phil Moorey VA3AXL when they saw a thunderstorm approaching. The winds increased, the sky got blacker and blacker. Streaks of lightening flashed across the sky, the rope was being blown straight out into space. Those boys came down the tower so fast that as Bill says, "Our legs felt like rubber when we got down to the bottom!"

In 1976, Bill left the Post Office and in that year began working for Thunder Bay Communications. Finally he was going to get paid for his radio technical expertise. In 1978, Bill and Pat Doherty VA3GD went to New Zealand and then to Rarotonga in the South Cook Islands where they stayed for three weeks. Having taken their radio rigs, they operated as a moderately rare DX station with the call-sign VE3EEW portable /ZK1.

Life down there must have been beautiful because Bill and Pat once back home decided to repeat the trip in 1984. This time they went to Western Samoa and then to Rarotonga again. Bill operated as ZK1XO and Pat was ZK1XM. They took all their own radio equipment this time which included a Dentron kilowatt amplifier, an Icom 75 watt transceiver, a tri-bander antenna, mast, wire and coaxial cable. This equipment was left on the island to be used by their hosts.

In 1988, Bill slowed down long enough to marry Joan. He even convinced her to get her Amateur Radio Licence and she is now known as VE3NCN. One year later in 1989, Bill changed his call-sign to VE3AJ, which once belonged to the late Frank Start.

Bill continues his relentless pace. Much of the radio equipment is bought used and then modified by himself but he builds all his own antennas. His ambition is to build a complete multi-mode, multi-band radio station from scratch and he would like to have the opportunity to restore the radio

equipment on the tug James Whalen.

When Bill is not working with radios, he tries to find time to work on another hobby which is woodworking. He is also a craftsman in this hobby as well. Bill is a Life Member of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). He is also a Life Member of The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT) and wants to participate in satellite radio communications. When Bill has some rare free moments, the love of music surfaces and he listens to jazz, Big Bands and light classical music.

Bill Klemacki's early morning radio call. "Good Morning, World!" is the signal from a Senator of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club for everyone to start working because he already has.

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*Editor Says:* We all will miss Bill, as long as I have been in the club and licenced which is 28 years now, Bill was there as one of the knowledgeable experts who knew his stuff could answer questions, and add fun to gatherings with his sense of humour and enthusiasm. Thank you to Jim O'Brien, VE3UA Past Editor for contributing this.

*Glen VE3ICY*

### LARC PINS FOR SALE:

Pins are available for 10 Dollars from:

Bob Hansen            767-6924

Terry Stewardson    577-9439

Charlene Schiffer    473-8420

Randy Gottfred      474-0910

Glen Wallace         623-0135

| LstN       | Email                       | MemType  | Address                    | City        | PCode   |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Germaniuk  | larryg@tbaytel.net          | Regular  | 3-223 McKellar St. South   | Thunder Bay | P7E1H6  |
| Malcolm    | amalcolm@tbaytel.net        | Regular  | 364 Toledo St.             | Thunder Bay | P7A2R6  |
| Michelizzi | michelizzifort@hotmail.com  | Regular  | 2107 Freeman Drive         | Thunder Bay | P7K 1H3 |
| Coghlan    | jcoghlan@tbaytel.net        | Regular  | 151 Court St. North #31    | Thunder Bay | P7A 4V3 |
| Bel        | No                          | Regular  | 1815 Murray Ave            | Thunder Bay |         |
| Pratt      | prattc@tbaytel.net          | Regular  | 711 KELLY STREET           | Thunder Bay | P7E 2A2 |
| Artist     | jartist@tbaytel.net         | Regular  | 317 SOUTH HIGH STREET APT3 | THUNDERBAY  | P7B3L2  |
| Sacek      | jsacek@tbaytel.net          | Regular  | 1273 REGINA AVE.           | THUNDERBAY  | P7B5C4  |
| Vaillant   | imanarc@hotmail.com         | Family 1 | 180 Center St              | Murillo     | P0T 2G0 |
| Gottfred   | VA3OJ@rac.ca                | Regular  | 2174 ROSSLYN RD.           | THUNDERBAY  | P7K1H6  |
| Pugh       | pughgang@shaw.ca            | Regular  | 242 MCKIBBON ST.           | THUNDERBAY  | P7B4B9  |
| Mazur      | va3rom@tbaytel.net          | Regular  | 82 Lawrence. Ave           | Thunder Bay | P7A 6X6 |
| Gillespie  | bobbyg@tbaytel.net          | Regular  | 192 RUPERT STREET          | THUNDERBAY  | P7B3X3  |
| Rusnak     |                             | Regular  | 573 HODDER AVENUE          | THUNDERBAY  | P7A1V8  |
| Holseth    | tholseth@tbaytel.net        | Regular  | 585 REDWOOD AVENUE WEST    | Thunder Bay | P7C 5E4 |
| Lesnick    | flesnick@tbaytel.net        | Family 1 | RR 1                       | S. Gillies  | P0T 2V0 |
| Wolowich   | wolowich@tbaytel.net        | Regular  | 523 WILTSHIRE CRESCENT     | THUNDERBAY  | P7C4M9  |
| Wallace    | g.wallace3@shaw.ca          | Family 1 | 637 HYDE PARK              | THUNDERBAY  | P7E1Y4  |
| Robb       | srobb@tbaytel.net           | Regular  | 202 SECORD STREET          | THUNDERBAY  | P7B3E5  |
| Migueis    | N                           | Regular  | 390 LAMBTON PLACE          | THUNDERBAY  | P7C5M1  |
| Harris     | ve3mxj@rac.ca               | Regular  | 307 SOUTHGATE CRT.         | THUNDERBAY  | P7A7Z5  |
| Klemacki   | bklemacki@tbaytel.net       | Regular  | 244 Egan St                | Thunder Bay | P7A2W4  |
| Procup     | nprocup@tbaytel.net         | Regular  | 1017 WEST FREDERICA STREET | THUNDERBAY  | P7E3X9  |
| Hansen     | rhansen@tbaytel.net         | Regular  | 735 ALICE AVENUE           | THUNDERBAY  | P7B5E5  |
| Contin     | N                           | Regular  | 451 MCKELLAR ST N.         | THUNDERBAY  | P7C3Z9  |
| Hastie     | johma@tbaytel.net           | Regular  | 242 SOUTH HIGH STREET      | Thunder Bay | P7B 3K7 |
| Bell       | ve3xrc@rac.ca               | Family 1 | 217 UNIVERSITY DRIVE       | THUNDERBAY  | P7C2C3  |
| Unger      | wunger@confederationc.on.ca | Regular  | 165 RIDGECREST RD.         | THUNDERBAY  | P7A 7A1 |
| Nawrocki   | nawrocki@shaw.ca            | Family 1 | 210 POPLAR AVENUE          | THUNDERBAY  | P7B1V9  |
| Hutsel     | nil                         | Regular  | RR. 7 Box 43               | Thunder Bay | P7C5V5  |
| Schiffer   | charl@tbaytel.net           | Regular  | RR 7                       | Thunder Bay | P7C5V5  |
| case       | mail@mail.com               | Regular  | 666 Anystreet              | Thunder Bay | P7Q0Q0  |
| Hartley    | bhartley@baynet.net         | Regular  | RR #13 Lakeshore Dr.       | Thunder Bay | P7B5E4  |

### **Paid Larc Members List - Ed Baumann VE3SNW**

We are hoping to start a new series of articles for HI Q. They will be a "virtual" shack tour with a little info on the owner. I have attached a form to assist you in forming an article for HI Q. We will probably also take some pictures of your shack and maybe even a short video to post at the LARC web site. If you're interested please fill in the form and return it to me. We will then get in touch with you for the pictures.

**Bill Unger VE3XT**

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

Hi I am and this is my station...

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Calls: \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed since: \_\_\_\_\_

Why I got into Ham Radio: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Rigs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Antennas: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Details (Optional): Job, Married, Kids, Other Hobbies, Etc. \_\_\_\_\_

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Bill and Joan at our Annual Banquet January 2004

*Editor Says:* Thank you to ED SNW, Bill XT, Jim UA, and Ian RIM for their contributions this month. Here's to happier days ahead. The antenna season was opened by Bill Unger blowing on AJ's horn at his commemorative service attended by a very large number of friends. Please send articles of interest to me at [g.wallace3@shaw.ca](mailto:g.wallace3@shaw.ca)

See you at the meeting.

Glen Wallace VE3ICY